

December 12, 2018

Developing the Economic Landscape

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman Federal Communications Commission 455 12th Street, Southwest Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) supports the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA," File ID 1114050901562) and disapproves of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, MB Docket 05-311.

BDCC has worked directly with Brattleboro Community Television (BCTV), Greater Northshire Access Television (GNAT), and Catamount Access Television (CAT-TV). These entities are critical to reaching the 27 communities we serve as one of 12 certified Regional Development Corporations affiliated with the State of Vermont. They ensure accountability and transparency at a community level between our organization and the citizens we serve. They create comprehensive coverage of key events like the Southern Vermont Economic Development Summits and the Connectivity Summits, and they educate our public about the work that BDCC does and the conditions and challenges that drive our work.

Community Television makes content available to much larger audiences including the many low income and elderly households in this very rural region. Their coverage aids in generating critical shared understanding and buy-in for long-term regional economic development efforts in which federal and state agencies are deeply invested. They assist in our efforts to attract and retain people and foster diversity in an area that is experiencing population decline and a loss of labor force. Community Television has been, and continues to be, an indispensable partner in creating a vibrant economy in this rural region.

We appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG Access in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Singerely,

Adam Grinold

Executive Director, BDCC